

Wounded Warrior Project

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Here is some exciting news regarding our Independence and Long Term Support programs. Our recent announcement of our commitment to long-term support programs for serve injured warriors. This \$30 million commitment will cover both the immediate and long-term needs of 250 of the most severely wounded warriors who, without this funding, are most at-risk for institutionalization. This funding will serve injured warriors and their families through two separate initiatives—the Independence Program and the Long-Term Support Trust.

The Independence Program:

- The Independence Program enrolled 100 warriors in FY 13 and will be enrolling an additional 150 warriors in FY14.
- The Independence Program is built for warriors who rely on their families due to moderate-to-severe brain injury, spinal-cord injury, or other neurological conditions. In addition, the warrior's cognitive or physical challenges limit their opportunities to access resources and activities in their own community.
- The Independence Program works with the warrior and their full support team (family members, treatment team, community-support professionals, and program staff) while creating an individualized plan for each warrior, focusing on goals that provide a future with purpose (example: improving the warrior's physical, social, cognitive, and emotional well-being).
- It is designed to be a long-term partnership intended to adapt to the ever-changing needs of the warrior.

The Long-Term Support Trust:

- This program will launch in Spring 2014, providing a dedicated funding source to ensure that those warriors with the greatest need have access to quality supports and services in the least isolated setting possible after their family members or caregivers are no longer able to provide it.
- In 2014, the fund's first in existence, up to 40 warriors will be enrolled in the Trust where they will receive access to secured funding allocated to cover the costs of up to 20 years of support services designed to keep these most vulnerable warriors in their homes, or the least restrictive settings possible.
- All Trust funding will be administered through advisory panels in consultation with individual warriors or their representative.

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